

IN THE CLAIMS

1-21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently amended) A credit-card sized apparatus capable of receiving and processing audio signals, comprising:

a power source;

an audio output device;

an input device capable of receiving human voice inputs; and

a data processing device ~~capable of~~ configured to processing said human voice inputs received by the input device and to generate a packet of digital data indicating adapted to transmit a result of the processing; and

transmission circuitry adapted to modulate an audio signal with the packet of digital data and transmit the modulated audio signal through the audio output device, as a digital signal.

23. (Currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the audio output device comprises a device for outputting human-audible sounds.

24-34. (Cancelled)

35. (Previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 22, comprising a database of voice patterns and wherein the data processing device is adapted to compare human voice inputs to the voice patterns of the database.

36. (Previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 35, wherein the data processing device is adapted to activate an application if a match is found in the comparison.

37. (Previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 35, comprising a data provision unit and wherein the data processing device is adapted to activate the data provision unit, if a match is found in the comparison.

38. (Previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 37, wherein the data provision unit comprises a magnetic strip.

39. (Cancelled)

40. (Previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 35, wherein the data processing device is adapted to compare human voice inputs to the voice patterns of the database, with regard to the general voice characteristics.

41. (Previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 35, wherein the data processing device is adapted to compare human voice inputs to the voice patterns of the database, with regard to their word content.

42. (Cancelled)

43. (Previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the transmission circuitry ~~data processing device~~ is adapted to transmit the result of the processing ~~packet of digital data~~ through the audio output device on an ultrasound signal.

44. (Previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the transmission circuitry ~~data processing device~~ is adapted to transmit the packet of digital data ~~result of the processing~~ through the audio output device modulated on an audio signal.

45. (New) An apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the packet includes user identification data.

46. (New) An apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the packet includes a digitization of a human voice input.

47. (New) A method of processing audio signals, comprising:  
receiving a human voice input by a credit-card sized apparatus;

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processing the human voice input so as to generate a packet of digits indicating a result of the processing;

modulating an audio signal with the packet of digits; and

transmitting the modulated audio signal through an audio output device.

48. (New) A method according to claim 47, wherein transmitting the modulated audio signal comprises transmitting over a telephone network.

49. (New) A method according to claim 47, comprising receiving the modulated audio signal by a computerized system through a regular sound card.